Unereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on August 1, 2006.

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By Dinx Wargelista

JoAnn Evangelista

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 7372

RODNEY A. PERKINS et al.

MENDEZ, MANUEL A

PATENT

Docket No.: 017534-000730US

Application No.: 10/017,068

Art Unit: 3763

Filed: December 13, 2001

For: METHODS, SYSTEMS, AND KITS FOR LUNG VOLUME REDUCTION

RESPONSE

Examiner:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandría, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on July 18, 2006, Applicants submit a Terminal Disclaimer over commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,287,290. As obviousness-type double patenting over the '290 patent was the only objection raised, Applicants believe that the case is now in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at .

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Reslin Reg. No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: (415) 576-0200 / Fax: (415) 576-0300 JMH:jke

60834632 v1